Many of the Buildings Have Been Improved During Vacation Days.

Schools Ready For Opening September 5

Extensive Improvements Yet to Be Made Before Conditions Are As They Should Be.

The Terre Haute public schools will open September 5, one week earlier than usual. During the two and a half months of the vacation period a large amount of work has been done about the different buildings and everything will be in ship shape for the opening of school when the first bells ring. One district, the Fourth, possibly cannot open because the repairs being made are yet incomplete, but all others will be ready to resume school duty when the first Tuesday of September dawns. Special repairs have been made on practically every building, the cost of which ranges from a few dollars to $7,500, and on all the buildings general repair work has been done. Every desk in the city except a few new desks only recently purchased, has been cleaned and varnished and every room in the many buildings has been thoroughly cleaned and, wherever thought necessary, disinfected or fumigated. The schools are in unusually good condition for the opening and the prospects, as a whole, are brighter than they have been for some years.

FIRST DISTRICT.

The First district situated at Fourth and Cherry streets, is one of the buildings which was in comparatively good condition at the end of the last school year, consequently it has not been improved to any great extent. The old fence has been replaced by a new iron railing and a few rooms have been repapered. The desks in certain rooms were found badly used up and these were replaced with new desks. The furnace has been overhauled, also.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Only a few improvements were found necessary at the Second district building, located at Seventh and Swan streets. Last year the school board expended $1,000 in remodeling the building, and it was placed in such good condition that it will not need extensive repairs or improvements for some time to come. The woodwork in a few of the rooms has been repainted.

THIRD DISTRICT.

The Third district at Third and Farrington streets, is one of the older buildings of the city, yet its condition is good. A new railing was put around the grass plot in front several weeks ago, which, with the revarnishing of all the seats, and general house cleaning, constitutes the sum total of improvements made during the summer.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

The Fourth district is undergoing greater changes than any other. The school board is spending about $1,500 remodeling it. The building was erected years ago, so long ago in fact, that Superintendent Wiley, who has been in the superintendent's office for years, was a teacher there. To the original building an addition was added which did not coincide in design and accommodations with the remainder of the building, and the city school board decided last spring to practically rebuild the addition and to remodel the older part of the structure. The doors of the addition and the windows are being raised to the same height as the original building and hereafter the entire house will be heated with steam instead of the long since antiquated coal stoves. The fact that the board has spent so much money on the old building has been the subject of much criticism on the part of people residing in this district, but the board claims that it is unable to erect a new building on the site, and that the improvements will make the Fourth district as good as any in Terre Haute. The outer walls will be painted, and at least in outward appearances the building will be as good as new.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

At Twelfth and Chestnut streets is another old building which is going through a process of rejuvenation. It is the Fifth district, where many of Terre Haute's business men attended school in their boyhood days. The board is spending $5,500 putting in a new heating plant to replace old and worn out stoves, is arranging indoor toilet rooms and is excavating the basement in order to give two new rooms for shop work. The new rooms will be under the rear of the building and will be equipped with all necessary tools to carry out the modern school methods of industrial training.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

The Sixth district, at Twelfth and Ohio streets, will not be changed in any considerable extent this year. Several of the walls have been calcimined and other have been papered. The woodwork in a few rooms have been revarnished.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

The Seventh district, Fourteenth street and Second avenue, was also found by the board not to need very extensive improvements. The east end of the city has grown so rapidly during the last few years that one new room will be opened here to accommodate the new population. Several of the old rooms have been repapered and the woodwork repainted. This building has one of the prettiest yards in the city, as it is heavily shaded by big forest trees.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

The Eighth district, formerly known as Mont Rose school, needed very little attention this year, as it was only opened to students at the beginning of last year. The most important work done this summer consisted of correcting the outside basement walls, in order to insure dry basement rooms. A few weeks ago the work of installing practice shops was commenced in this building, and when the new term opens manual training will be taught in the upper grades.

NINTH DISTRICT.

The Ninth district, at Third and Oak streets, has received attention both inside and out, but none of the improvements have been very extensive. The halls have been repainted and revarnished, and several rooms have received much needed calcimining. The front yard has been partly refilled and sodded, and a new fence encloses the back yard. To the teachers of the Ninth district a great deal of credit is due, for while they have a very old building, one of the oldest in the city, in fact, the careful attention they show to the building and grounds makes it look as good as any structure in Terre Haute.

TENTH DISTRICT.

The colored school at Thirteenth and One-half and Dean streets, known as the Tenth district, needed few repairs this year. Some of the rooms were repapered, and the woodwork repainted. Otherwise the building was found to be in very good condition.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

The students of the Eleventh district will be housed in entirely new quarters this year. The Eleventh is the Normal Training school, and has always been cared for in the basement of the old Normal building. The new training department of the Normal is now complete, and instead of being cramped in six rooms, the city training school will be given eight large, airy rooms. All the rooms will be, or rather have been, furnished with new "Wabash" desks, and as the Normal school trustees provided for every possible convenience in the new building, those connected with the Eleventh district will fare well this winter.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

At the Twelfth district, colored, Second and Crawford streets, a new room has been furnished to accommodate the many children that for several years have taxed the capacity of the rooms already in use. This building is a good one, and save for revarnishing the woodwork, and papering a few rooms, few repairs were needed.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

So far little has been done at the Thirteenth district, known amicably as Wiley park, but popularly as the old Peat House, as for years the structure was used for contagious diseases. However, as soon as the city school board finds what it can do with the recent bond issue there will be some important changes. Plans and specifications are now in the hands of the school officials calling for an expenditure of $20,000 on this building. The house now has eight rooms, but it is proposed to build a six-room addition, thus giving it capacity equal to any district building in the city. Steam heat will be installed, and the old building will be remodeled. These improvements have been made necessary by the rapid growth of the northwest part of the city, and do not come a minute before they are needed.

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.

A year ago the school board spent $400 remodeling the Fourteenth district, which is situated at Sixteenth and Elm streets. This year the school is receiving very little attention. It is one of the colored districts.

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.

The Fifteenth district, Eighteenth and Chestnut streets, is one of Terre Haute's new buildings comparatively, and outside of refitting a few rooms and recalcimining some of the walls, nothing has been done at the building this summer.

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT.

The Sixteenth district at Eighth street and College avenue, is another building at which few improvements were made. One new room has been opened and thoroughly equipped, and most of the inside woodwork has been revarnished.

SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT.

At the Seventeenth district, corner Seventh street and Third avenue, a new room was opened, and several of the old rooms repapered.

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT.

The Eighteenth district, at Tenth and Linden streets, received very little attention from the board this year. The building is comparatively new, and is as well, if not better, taken care of by the teachers than any building in Terre Haute. Professor Herbert Briggs has taken a personal interest in making the lawn without a doubt the finest school lawn in Terre Haute, and all the teachers have spent liberally both in time and money in adorning the building and grounds.

NINETEENTH DISTRICT.

The Nineteenth district, Fifth and Osborne streets, is now situated in one of the old Coates college buildings, but the school board will erect a new $20,000 building to accommodate the children in this part of the city this fall. The site for the new building will be at the corner of Sixth and Hulman streets. The structure will provide for twelve class rooms.

TWENTIETH DISTRICT.

The Twentieth district at Eighteenth and Poplar streets has undergone general repairs, but nothing very extensive has been done. This building was formerly the old Davis family homestead, but was purchased by the city school board a year ago. The natural beauty of the big yard in front of and at the sides of the building has always been the subject of much favorable comment.

TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT.

The Twenty-first district at Second and Voorhees streets (formerly the Greenwood school of Harrison township and was situated in the school city when the city of Terre Haute added its new south and territory last winter. At the time the city annexed Greenwood the building was overlooked and one teacher was compelled to use an old dwelling house throughout the year. A new room has been fitted up, however, and the children will all be housed under one roof.

TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT.

The furnaces of the Highland school building or Twenty-second district, situated at Lafayette and North avenues, have been overhauled, but outside of this little has been done in the way of improvements. One new room will be opened, giving accommodations for about fifty more pupils under city administration than under the township school system.

TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT.

The Twenty-third district or Cottage Place school, as it was known when under direction of Harrison township, needed very few repairs this summer. It is located at Twenty-first street and Washington avenue.

TWENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT.

The last of the district buildings, No. 24, situated at Twenty-fifth and Tippecanoe streets, like the Twenty-third district, needed little attention and except the building of a basement entrance from the outside, no important changes are noticeable. This building also was formerly a township school.

HIGH SCHOOL.

The High school building, although twenty years old, is in good condition for the opening of the new year. Each year has been a gradual increase in number of students, and almost every summer recently new rooms have been opened, until at present almost the whole building is occupied. It is the dream of the school board and Superintendent Wiley to erect a Manual Training school just south of the main building and with the growing interest in industrial work in the schools, there is no doubt that this will be done at no very far distant date.

PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS.

Terre Haute has besides the many city schools, four parochial schools, all conducted by the Sisters of Providence, of St. Mary's of the Woods. The schools are St. Joseph's, St. Ann's, St. Patrick's and St. Benedict's. There is also a school at St. Ann's orphanage in the north part of the city conducted by these sisters.

St. Joseph's academy, at Fifth and Walnut streets, has had some important changes, and is prepared for a busy and interesting year's work. A new steam heating plant has been installed, the rooms refurnished, and arrangements made to care for more students. Last year there were about 240 pupils, and with a thorough high school course, and a special course in music this year, it is believed the enrollment will be large. The high school course is complete, and is a careful preparation for college. Ten Sisters of Providence have been detailed as the faculty of St. Joseph's for the present winter.

At St. Ann's school, Fifteenth-and-one-half and Locust streets, arrangements are being made to care for thirty or forty more students this year than last, and it is probable the enrollment will reach 140 or 150. The sisters of the school are now staying at St. Ann's orphanage and are arranging their work for the winter.

St. Benedict's school has undergone the usual summer improvements, and is now ready for the first day of the school year. Over 100 students were enrolled last year, and the enrollment of the coming year will doubtless be much larger.

An addition is being built to St. Patrick's academy at Thirteenth and Poplar streets. The school had 151 students last year, and it is probable the enrollment will be much larger during the coming year. One or two new rooms will be opened, and the faculty will be increased. Besides the addition of new rooms, the old buildings have undergone general improvements, such as painting, papering and cleaning.

HAUTE PREPARE FOR LIFE'S BATTLES.

16 DIST.

15TH DIST.

3RD DIST.

10TH DIST

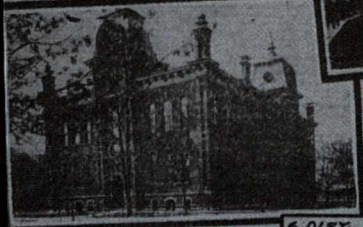
5TH DIST.

8 DIST.

COTTAGE GROVE DIST 23.

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL, 11TH DIST.

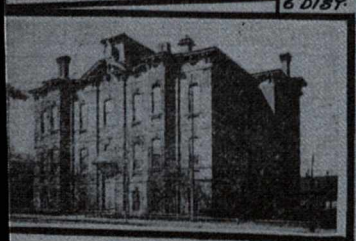
13TH DIST.



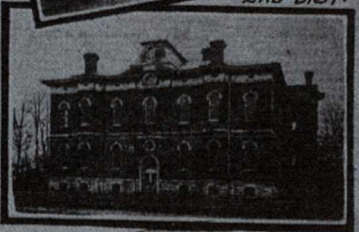
6 DIST.

24TH DIST.

2ND DIST.



1ST DIST.



7TH DIST.